

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

Dosage regimens of buprenorphine achieving rapid pain relief without increasing nausea, vomiting, or other adverse effects, are described. Also described are buprenorphine
5 dosage regimens for treating chronic pain comprising administering to the patient (1) a first buprenorphine-containing transdermal dosage form for a first dosing period that is no more than about 5 days; (2) a second buprenorphine-containing transdermal dosage form for a second dosing period that is no more than 5 days, the second dosage form comprising the same dosage of buprenorphine as, or a greater dosage of buprenorphine than, the first dosage form; and (3) a
10 third buprenorphine-containing transdermal dosage form for a third dosing period, the third dosage form comprising a greater dosage of buprenorphine than the second dosage form.